



17th March 2020

Dear Parents

I am sure you are aware that we are currently facing a challenging time nationally with regards to the Covid-19 situation. As sent in previous messages, we as a school are doing everything we can to remain open, as per government advice. This is so that students can receive quality education but also, importantly, to ensure the most vulnerable members of our wider community are supported.

At present we have no confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the school.

As you will be aware, yesterday (16th March 2020), the guidance changed. You will see a link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults>

If this affects you, or your family, please contact the school absence line and make us aware so that we can respond appropriately and sensitively.

At present, schools are not being told to close. All other students are expected to attend. If your son/daughter is not demonstrating the specific symptoms, or the household is not in self isolation, then advice is to continue with schooling as normal. However, if someone in the household suffers from an underlying medical condition please do contact the appropriate medical professionals as well as ourselves.

You will recognise that at present our capacity is limited. We will therefore not be in a position to issue specific work for students who are not in school. You and your child will be aware of the array of online resources available; this includes resources we use in school and other activities. Students who are able to, should access these platforms and complete work, tests and revision activities. Please also look on class charts for set homework. More updates with regard to online learning will be forthcoming.

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For now we are focussing on our core purposes of learning, teaching and of course, safety. Parents evening this week for Year 8 is postponed; further details will be given. Also, as per advice from a range of sporting organisational bodies, external fixtures are postponed. We will update with any other changes or postponements.

We are evaluating our current response on a daily basis and will contact you with further updates. We have plans that if capacity (teachers and our support staff in school) is affected we may have to take measures to reduce the year groups in school as some schools have done in our local area. If we have to make such decisions we will be mindful of examination year groups, younger students and any students with individual needs of the child and family. We aim to avoid such measures but want you to be aware of our sensible and strategically planned approach. Again, you will receive communication in all such possible instances.

The coming weeks will be challenging for schools, parents, students and teachers. If your son/daughter is upset about anything concerning this, please do let us know so we can support them in school. We are here as a community resource should you need.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Ali
Headteacher

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